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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

**STUDENTS . . .
START
YOUR CAREER
in SCS
BEFORE YOU
GRADUATE**

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION NO. 714

**COLLEGE FRESHMEN,
SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS . . .**

**A Job for You Now
IN SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION**

Be a

STUDENT TRAINEE

- Work during vacations
- Step into a full-time
Professional job
When you graduate

**YOU MAY QUALIFY
IF YOU ARE MAJORING IN**

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Soil Conservation | ● Agronomy |
| Engineering | ● Biology |
| Soils | ● Forestry |
| Farm Management | ● Range Management |
| Animal Husbandry | ● Agricultural Economics |
| Other agricultural sciences | |



How Student Trainee Program Works

You qualify in a civil service examination.

The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) hires you to work during nonschool periods at GS-3 after completing 1 year in college.

You work each summer during the vacation period, go on leave from your job in the fall, and return to college.

Between your sophomore and junior year you will be eligible for promotion to GS-4.

Between your junior and senior year you are again eligible for promotion to GS-5.

When you graduate, and without additional civil service examination, you can be assigned to a full-time professional job. Time spent as a student trainee counts toward retirement.

After becoming a full-time professional employee, if your performance is satisfactory you receive periodic increases in pay. You are also eligible for promotion to more responsible, higher paying jobs. You are on your way to a satisfying lifetime career.

What Student Trainees Do

As a student trainee you work as a helper to SCS soil and range conservationists, engineers, and soil scientists.

You are a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's technical arm of action for soil and water conservation.

You are a member of a team that works on:

- A national soil and water conservation program through soil conservation districts
- The Federal part of the national cooperative soil survey
- Watershed protection, flood prevention, and river-basin investigations
- Flood-damage reductions in 11 major watersheds
- The agricultural phase of water-utilization projects in the West
- Snow surveys for water-supply forecasting in the West
- The Great Plains conservation program
- Resource conservation and development projects.



SD-560

What Soil Conservationists Do

Provide professional leadership in local areas for natural-resource conservation and development.

Help local leaders develop and carry out community and area resource-development plans.

Help land owners and operators prepare a conservation plan that provides for the use and treatment of their land according to its needs and capability and that is adapted to the type of operation the individual wishes to follow.

Give and supervise onsite technical assistance where needed to apply the practices in conservation plans, such as terracing, stripcropping, contour farming, and establishing permanent vegetation.

What Range Conservationists Do

Help ranchers and livestock farmers to determine the suitability of their land for the production of native forage and other crops, and to develop conservation plans that will result in the use of the conservation practices needed to improve the condition of their ranges and pastures.

Give onsite technical assistance to landowners on proper forage utilization, reseeding, noxious-plant control, water development, and systems of range management to stabilize the livestock industry and protect and improve the soil and water resource.

ND-586





WIS-1416

What Engineers Do

Plan, design, and supervise construction of:

- Earth-fill and reinforced-concrete dams for flood prevention and water storage
- Spillways, drop structures, outlets, and erosion-control and water-control systems
- Drainage, irrigation, terrace, and water-disposal systems
- Streambank protection and channel stabilization works, canals, pipelines, diversions, and waterways
- Watershed projects involving all the integrated structural measures needed to provide for the desired degree of control of the area

Make hydrologic studies and prepare soil mechanics reports.

What Soil Scientists Do

Collect information about the soil through examination, and record the information on maps and as field notes.

Present the information for use by farmers and ranchers, urban planners, and technical specialists in other fields.

TEX-49,376



What Woodland Conservationists Do

Give technical guidance, training, and other assistance in woodland conservation to SCS employees.

Develop technical standards in forestry in collaboration with State forestry agencies for use of SCS employees who provide assistance to land owners and operators in the conservation of their woodlands as part of coordinated soil and water conservation programs for their land.

Interpret forestry techniques and experimental data for field use.

Help to evaluate soil-tree relationships and determine woodland conservation practices in relation to specific soil and site conditions.

What Economists Do

Participate in planning watersheds, river basins, and other natural resource areas.

Estimate benefits and costs of works of improvements, allocate costs, and determine economic justification of plans for flood prevention, irrigation, drainage, municipal and industrial water supply, recreation, and other types of resource development projects.

Collect, analyze, and interpret cost and return data for conservation measures applied on farms and ranches.

FLA-D2-10





FLA-D8-13

What Agronomists Do

Provide technical guidance on agronomic problems to SCS employees, and to land owners and operators who are carrying out soil and water conservation programs.

Interpret soil and crop experimental data for field use of SCS personnel and land owners and operators who are planning and applying conservation plans.

Conduct field trials to evaluate adaptability and handling of grasses and legumes in soil and water conservation.

Determine methods of establishing herbaceous vegetation for soil and water conservation purposes.

What Biologists Do

Provide guidance and training to SCS employees in biological principles and practices that make crop-land, grazing land, woodland, and farm or ranch waters more productive of fish and wildlife.

Develop biological practices and standards, convert new knowledge into technical recommendations, and assemble and make available other information in relation to agricultural fish and wildlife for the use of SCS employees and land owners and operators.

Training

As a student trainee you learn by doing. You get practical experience by working under the guidance of technical experts.

- You follow a planned training schedule designed to fit your needs.
- Your supervisor gives you study assignments that tie in with the job.
- Experience and training gained on the job carry over into the classroom. You make better selection of courses. You develop a keener appreciation of the value of academic work.

How To Become a Student Trainee

Write to or visit the State office of the Soil Conservation Service. Ask for an application form and instructions on how to apply.

Take the written aptitude test when you are notified to do so.

Get additional information by visiting the SCS office in your locality.

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4

